

Previous references.

SR 4-1890

1891-2

191

File No. 9-91

Serial Nos. 1-2

Later references.

SR

SR 21-97

1-5 & 6-26 86 MB

(S. R

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1-2

Major Part B. for April 92.

SUBJECT

Poppy cultivation in Mysore

To The Excise Commr in Mysore

No 3938 of 4-7-91
406

Requests to submit a memorandum on the present history and existing facts of the subject NO 176 with proposals for the consideration and orders of Govt.

2. From The Excise Commr in Mysore

Dy No 753 of 16-4-92. L No 398
145 21

Forwards a memorandum re-cultivation of
G. R. S. 1890 poppy, production, sale, & Consumption
of opium in Mysore
GPE-4,000-47.11
Countermarked
Bangalore
Hidred
1-2 8/10/92
DD Names

"Arrangements are made under
"the Opium Act for the supply
"of Opium to Madras, the selling
"price of opium to the vendors of
"Mysore will not be less than
"the selling price charged to the
"Vendors in Bombay. Eventually
"the selling price obtaining in
"Madras will determine the
"price in Mysore" -

TX Opium Rule 11 of 1880 runs
thus for Mysore.

"The cultivation of the poppy
"under special license granted
"with the permission of the Chief
"Commissioner in very exceptional cases
"and under such conditions &
"restrictions as the Chief Commissioner
"considers necessary, is permitted."

X In the Instrument of Transfer
at the time of the rendition, ~~under~~
^{condition} 18 "Monopolies" run as follows:-

"The Maharajah of Mysore
"shall comply with the wishes of
"the Governor General in Council in
"the matter of prohibiting or
"limiting the manufacture of
"~~and~~ opium and the cultivation
"of poppy in Mysore; also in
"the matter of giving effect to all
"such regulations as may be considered
"proper in respect to the export and

import of — opium and poppy
"heads" —

XI The area under Opium Cultivation prior to the levy of ad-
- Valorem duty ^{1st} ~~20%~~ thereon and the
imposition of fees on retail
Vend is not known. In 1871-72
the area is given at about 717
acres. This dwindled down to
about 49 acres in 1876-77 —
owing to drought in that year
But in the ensuing two years
it was 110 & 104 acres. The authorized
Cultivation disappeared when the act
came into force. There were a few
cases of unlawful cultivation afterwards
but as this was illegal, it was inter-
-dicted.

XII. The area cultivated on an
average in 6 years was $388\frac{1}{2}$ acres.
The average assessment varied from
2-11-11 to Rs 30-6 — per acre or
~~say~~ Rs 16-9-11 $\frac{1}{2}$ (say Rs 16-10-0). The
area cultivated being divided by
~~with~~ the rental realized gives
Rs 7-11-9. Govt directed a uniform
rate of Rs 8-7-6 on such lands
after the cultivation was stopped.

XIII a Coodoo ^{4 wt} land was said to
yield from 2 to 3 seers of good
solid opium, — say $2\frac{1}{2}$ seers on an
average. This would give on 10 Coodos
or an acre, $10 \times 2\frac{1}{2} = 25$ seers of
24 tolas ^{per acre}. This was sold by the
cultivator at from 1-3-0 to 1-8-0
say 1-5-6 ^{per acre} on an average.

The area being taken at $388\frac{1}{2}$ acres, this would give the out-turn at $97\frac{1}{2}$ seers & the value at Rs 130 50-8-. There is no doubt that double that amount or a 26,101-^{prig} would be about what it was ^{prig} for 1871-72. When the restrictions alluded to were imposed & probably four times ^{& that again}.

The amount prior ~~to~~ ^{at the out-set} or Rs 52207/- While the area cultivated could not have been less than 1500/- or 2000/- acres. This substantially coincides with the representations made ^{by the assembly} that the loss to the ryots was very great, though their figures are double those given here which have been ^{as will be seen} struck on a very liberal scale.

XIV. The cultivator having realized Rs 1-5-6 per seer, he thus obtained over 25 seers per acre a sum of Rs 32-15-6. The Govt assess-ment being on average 16-10-, his average profits & costs thus amount-
ed to Rs 16-5-6. If the assessment was higher, it is certain the yield was more. If assessment was lower, the yield was less.

XV. I find the Bengal opium Cultivator under engagement makes over the opium to the Govt agent.

— In one year 46,698 chests of $140\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. were thus delivered at ~~to~~ 63 £ 8 s 1 d. This would give

$\frac{5}{7} - \frac{2}{3}$ per $\frac{1}{2}$ lb or Rs 2-2-10 per
 Mysore seer of 24 Tolas as costs &
 the surplus being taken at 2d.
 Profits, I cannot tell what it will
 be per acre, nor what is the assess-
 ment fixed on lands on which
 it is raised? But the ^{costs} profits appear
 to be better in Bengal than in
 Mysore.

XVI At present Govt gets opium
 from Malwa and pays on average
 Rs 2/11/3 per seer including insurance,
 Railwayfare &c to Bangalore. The costs
 & profits on 3020 ^{seers retained in 1892/93} will ^{then} be given
 below: —

Purchase of 3020 seers	Rs 11
at Rs 2-11-3	8163-7-
Profit to Govt at 6-10-93	20149-1-
Sales to Vendors at 9-6-	<u>28312-8-</u>
	~~28123-8-~~

XVII Now as regards the
 proposal to restore the cultivation
 of poppy on the lines it formerly
 ran is on the face of it impossible,
 as the Govt of India are decidedly
 opposed to such a step - Giving
 the fullest and most liberal inter-
 pretation to their orders "that is to
 raise enough for our medical &
 domestic purposes", ~~then~~ This would
 now represent 3020 seers of opium,
 the consumption in 1892-93. For
 this about 121 acres of the best
 wet land will be needed. The
 assessment fixed at Rs 16-10-0
 per acre would give Govt
^{in addition to item B para 16 above}
 2011-10-0 of the Cultivators

crop is 3 auro per (24).
 Poppy head 4 auro per (24)
 Nth. Please see my
 note for Opium (forbidd)
 sent with letter No 237
 of 4th Jan 1894 to Govt
 for further particulars
 on the subject of this
 paper

Rs 1947-15-0 plus what we
 would ~~derive~~ derive from the
 Cusens seed & poppy heads. But
 against these latter, there is the
 set off of costs of cultivation &
 charges incidental thereto which
 will probably be covered by the
 sale of these two items.

XVIII I doubt if the cultivation
 in Mysore could now raise a
 seer of opium for less than 2-2-10
 the rate at which it is done in
 Bengal. This would thus give
 Ann Rs 2-11-3 less 2-2-10
 = Rs 8-5 per seer ~~per seer~~ or
 Rs 20-5-0 per acre. But I
 do not think the Govt of
 India will accede to this pro-
 posal now, if put forward
 i.e. to allow Mysore to raise
 its own stock and export its
 surplus under bond for sale
 outside India in other markets
 of the world. It could then have
 its own "cusens seed" & "poppy
 heads" instead of importing
 these from Bengal. The one
 largely enters into the domestic
 economy of the household and
 the latter for embrocations &c
 and cannot be had except at
 very high price, & stale & old. This
 might be gained by our Mysore under
 license

cause. If the opium is extracted
it sh^d be done in the presence of
the G. or Village Officer
in the op^t office & must over to
the Amisbon to be weighed &
brought to book & report to Inspector
thru the G. or J. ind.

If the opium be not
extracted the virtues of the
Poppy seed & especially the
Poppy heads would be
considerably enhanced. But
as the Poppy heads are removed when
quite ripe & dry the opium w^{ch}
^{is almost all}
is dissipated by the heat & is
just ins^t left to give a piquancy
to the "Cuscus" and, at the ~~Poppy~~ under the embrocation
slightly more energetic perhaps.
But this all - This is "worth a trial"
So must present wants must
I should import "Poppy Heads"
for disposal through the
Ganja contractor in Mand
shops & sale to other Petty
Proprs - as its sale now in
Mysore is unrestricted unlike
Mandur & elsewhere where its
sale is a Govt monopoly.

16/6/94
16/94
J. H. W. Russell
Spl. Secy: / W. C.

Note by Mr T. G. McDermott
 Apr 4: 1894. Doing Duty Durwan's Office
 giving rates connected with the purchase
 and Sale of Opium. -

	Per <u>seer</u>
1. The cost at contract price paid by the British Govt averages for crude opium	Rs. A.P. 2-6-0
2. The average <u>net</u> price paid by the Mysore Dastar was -	3-8-9
3. Do. including cartage &c. delivered at Bangalore -	3-13-1
4. Sold to Vendors from Dastar Taranis -	15-10-0
Rs 9-6-0 per seer { Rs 11-4-0 - 4- {	18-12-0
5. Sold to Public -	
6. The cultivators in Mysore and the Opium for -	1-4-

And is equal to 24
 and a lb to 40 Tolas -

16 1/2 Note: See Mysore as
 price is Rs 18 per seer or Rs 30 per lb
 advocated the rates Bangalore vice
 Please see my memo sent to
 Chief Secy. with my letter No
 9th Jan'y 1894 for further particulars

Durwan's Office {
 823rd May 1893 {
 D. D. Dur

To J. Paramasiva Iyer Esq. B
 Mysore
 Durwan's Office

✓
3938 406 D. 4th July 91

SECTION	SR
FILE No.	Q-91
SERIAL No.	1

Order

The attention of the Excise Commissioner in Mysore is drawn to Subject No. 176 (Revival of Poppy cultivation) brought up at the meeting of the Dasara Representative Assembly held in October last, and the Excise Commissioner is requested, with reference to the Summary of discussion and the Dewa reply recorded in the Proceedings, to draw up early and submit a memorandum on the past history and existing facts of the with proposals the Considera

and orders of Government L

11th 1/2 July 91

Chief Secretary.

The Excise Commissioner
Mysore

D/4th July/91

N^o 3938
406.

To.

The Excise Commissioner
in Mysore

Drawing his attⁿ to subject
N^o 176 of the Dasara Rep:
Assembly of 1890 - Renewal
of Paddy cultivation - receipt
to draw up early & submit
a Memo: on the past history
of the subjects with proposals
for amendment in orders of Govt

From the Secretary
to the Government
of Mysore

Enclosure to Sl 1

Kolar District

Subject No. 176.
Revival of poppy
cultivation.

Summary of discussion.—The discontinuance under Chief Commissioner's Proceedings No. 5903.11—Rev. 1035, dated 4th February 1880, of poppy cultivation which used formerly to be carried on in some of the Taluks of the Bangalore and Kolar Districts, viz. Chikballapur, Devanahalli, Hoskote, Sidlaghatta and Malur, has resulted in the annual loss of over a lakh of rupees to the riyats. They pray for the restoration of the cultivation, on condition that the poppy growers do not sell their opium to any but licensed Vendors. Traced.
Not traceable
✓
Sl 19
S-

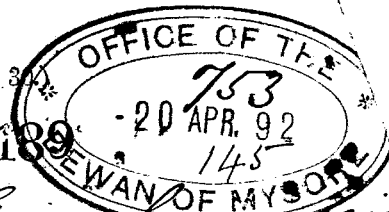
Dewan's reply.—The Opium Act and Rules thereunder allow poppy cultivation under certain conditions. The representation will be considered and needful orders given. The Excise Commissioner will be requested to draw up and submit a Memorandum on the subject for the orders of Government.

SECTION 22
 FILE NO. Q-91
 SERIAL NO. 2

From

2/1/92

al No. 300



*The Excise Commission
 in Mysore*

To

The Chief Secretary to the Dewan
 of Mysore

Dated 16 April 1892

Despatched 21

Received

Enclosures No. 2

General No. 395
 No. 22

Government Proceedings
 No. 3958 dated 4 July 1891,
406
 and Chief Secretary's D. C.
 letters dated 27 August 1891
 and 15 March 1892.

*Has the honor to
 forward herewith a
 memorandum regarding the
 cultivation of poppy, and
 production, sale and con-
 sumption of Opium in
 Mysore.*

*R. G. Srinivasan
 Excise Commissioner
 in Mysore.*

Encl. - L. submitted for order

1/2
Enclosure to Sl 2.

Memorandum.

1. Poppy was cultivated in certain tracts of deep red soil in the Bangalore and Kolar Districts, both for making opium, and on account of the seed. In the year 1847 the poppy was cultivated in the following taluks:- Auckab, Devenhully, Hoskote, Malur, Chickballapur, Siddlaghatta and Ambajidroog (Chintamony) as per accounts of that year, a Cood of land i-e 500 square yards, yielded a return of 2 to 3 seers (24 Rs weight per seer) of pure poppy juice. The price paid to the cultivators for the pure juice varied from Rs 1-3-0 to Rs 1-8-0 per seer if in a solid state, and from Rs 0-9-4 to Rs 0-11-8 if in a

liquid state as when fresh drawn from the plant. It was in the latter state that the Cultivators generally sold it to the dealers in opium. The quantity of opium exported from the Mysore Province was as follows:-

Years	Quantity	
	Mauuds of 24 lbs	Sers of 24 tols
1842-43	1029	22
1843-44	2175	12
1844-45	1961	21

2. The following ingredients were used by the traders in preparing opium for exportation:- Wheat flour, jaggery, gum, manna of bamboo (Phavakshura), Vermilion (Duglicum), decoction of poppy, oil of poppy seeds, grated nutmeg and Indian hemp leaves. All these were well pounded with the pure juice of the poppy till a paste was formed, which was made up into sugar cakes. In this state the opium was exported by merchants,

and also locally sold.

3. In the year 1845 a duty of Rs 2-14-0 per basket of $15\frac{1}{2}$ seers was imposed by the Madras Government on all opium exported from Mysore into the Madras Presidency.

4. By the Mysore Government Notification No. 352 dated 16th December 1871 an ad valorem excise duty of 20 per cent was imposed on all opium produced in or imported into this Province.

5. Up to the year 1876 the right of bunding ganja and opium together was leased to the highest bidder. But in September 1876 the then Chief Commissioner ordered that as this system was calculated to foster the cultivation of the plants from which these narcotics were obtained, and that as it was the intention of the Government of India that every means should be used to discourage the manufacture of these drugs by placing restrictions

x put up
① of Ref Sec
I

7000 N 5545
Rev 102
15/9/76

PK
④ of Ref Sec
I

on the poppy Cultivation, preparation of the drug and retail sale of it, the system of granting Licenses for the retail vend of ganja and opium should be enforced at the marginally noted rates.

Rs. 10 on shops situated in localities where it is desirable to check the sale of drugs by a prohibitive rate.

6. In regard to the cultivation of poppy no rules were prescribed, beyond assessing the lands at high rates according to the capabilities of the soil. The cultivator was at liberty to sell the opium juice to any person who offered to buy it at any price agreed to between them, an ad valorem duty of 20 per cent being paid to Government at the time of sale. To supervise and control the produce and sales a temporary Sayer Establishment had been entertained, but it was subsequently abolished, the work being entrusted to the village officials. The Wholesale prices of opium were ordinarily as follows:-

Rs. 5 on shops situated in kasha towns.

Rs. 3 in other shops.

Solid opium	Rs. 210 per maund.
Semi solid	150 — " —
Opium juice as when first drawn from the plant.	110 — " —

3/

7.

The following table gives the statistics of opium Cultivation. -

Years	Area of land Cultivated acres G. & Y.			Rate per acre						Assessment			Advalorem duty at 20 per cent		
				From			To								
				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
1871-72	716	31	87	2	4	9	31	12	2	4721	1	"	9240	4	8
1872-73	576	21	88	3	"	4	31	12	2	3959	14	4	6931	5	5
1873-74	512	15	115	2	11	8	32	12	2	3979	2	2	5619	2	7
1874-75	306	8	23	3	"	4	32	12	2	3453	2	2	3429	3	10
1875-76	170	30	14	2	13	6	30	1	7	1558	13	8	1934	"	"
1876-77	48	37	12	3	5	"	23	1	9	366	2	11	1166	12	10

8.

The acreage under poppy Cultivation in the two Districts of the Province, in which alone it was carried on, is detailed in the subjoined table.

Years	Bangalore District			Kolar District			Total											
	area cul- = tivated A G Y	assessment Rs A.P		Area cultivated A G Y	assessment Rs A.P		Area cultivated A G Y	assessment Rs A.P										
1871-72	Separate statistics are not forth- = coming.						716	31	87	4721	1	-						
1872-73	365	22	63	1949	3	7	210	39	24	2010	10	9	576	21	87	3959	14	4
1873-74	245	18	32	1658	6	4	266	37	83	2320	11	10	512	15	115	3979	2	2
1874-75	118	29	59	1530	4	4	187	18	85	1922	13	10	306	8	23	3453	2	2
1875-76	59	32	20	467	4	-	110	38	26	1091	9	8	170	30	46	1558	13	8
1876-77	37	6	14	263	9	6	11	30	119	102	9	5	48	37	12	366	2	11

N.B.

The statistics of the import of opium for the above years are

not available.

9. It will be seen from the above that there was a gradual decline in the cultivation of poppy. This was evidently due to the imposition of advalorem duty at 20 percent, in the year 1871. But the heavy fall in 1876-77 was undoubtedly due to famine. Subsequently there was some increase as may be seen from the following figures:-

Years	Bangalore Dist.				Polar District				Total			
	area		advalorem duty		area		advalorem duty		area		advalorem duty	
	a	g	Rs.	as.	A	G	Rs.	as.	A	G	Rs.	as.
1877-78	76	u	413	15	34	u	544	21	110	u	958	2
1878-79	61	u	386	5	143	u	513	14	5104	u	900	36

10. The statistics for the year 1879-80 are not forthcoming.

11. In reply to a reference the late Chief Commissioner informed the Government of India in August 1878 that he could not advocate the proposal to prohibit the cultivation of poppy altogether in this Province; but that a

Serial No. 14
Sec IX

W/

(15) of Ref Sec IX

prohibition might be placed on the local manufacture of opium. In reply the Government of India observed that the suppression of poppy cultivation would be easier and more convenient than the repression of opium manufacture, and enquired whether the Chief Commissioner could not arrange to prohibit open field cultivation, provided that a few patches of gardens would not be noticed. In March 1879 the Chief Commissioner agreed (evidently by a telegram, vide Dufferin memo) that the cultivation of poppy should be prohibited altogether with only nominal reservation for granting Special Licenses. The Opium Act of 1878 and the Rules there under came to force from 1st April 1880, the necessary provision being made for granting Special Licenses in Rule II which lays down "The cultivation of the poppy under Special Licenses granted with the permission of the Chief Commissioner

* This could not be traced in the file but the slab is supported by the letter to the Govt of India no 2492 of 20th June/79.

(19) of Ref Sec IX

"in very exceptional cases, and under
"such conditions and restrictions
"as the Chief Commissioner may
"consider necessary, is permitted".

12. In regard to the absolute
prohibition of poppy cultivation
(evidently of open field cultivation
as decided upon by the Government
of India and Chief Commissioner),
the Chief Commissioner issued
Proceedings N^o. 5903-11 dated 4th -
February 1880. ^{Rev: 1035} The high rates of
assessment on the lands therefore
cultivated with poppy, were reduced
in Government Proceedings N^o. 5786
dated 10th January 1881. ¹⁰²¹

② of Ref 600
IX

⑨ of Ref 500
IX

13. It was finally arranged
that the Mysore Government should
purchase the opium required for
local consumption from the
British opium agent at Malwa,
and sell it to the licensed retail vendors
from the various Government Treasuries
in the Province. Under the existing
rules the prices of opium are as follows:-

Price at which the Mysore } $6\frac{1}{4}$ annas per tola
Government sells opium } or Rs. 9-6-0 per
to vendors. — } seer of 24 tolas. —

Price at which vendors } $7\frac{1}{2}$ annas per tola
sell it to the public. — } or Rs. 11-4-0 per seer
of 24 tolas. —

5/ 14. A fee of Rs. 9 per quarter is levied for each vendor's license in the towns of Bangalore, Mysore, Shimoga and Chikmagalur and in all other stations no fee is levied, except where the sales in any shop exceed Rs. 6 per month in which case a small fee of Annas 8 per mensem is levied.

15. The total cost to Government in purchasing opium from the British Agent at Malwa, is as follows:-

Years	Quantity purchased		Price paid			Railway fare			Total cost	
	Seers	Tolas	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.P.
1887-88	3410	"	8,457	8	"	820	1	10	9,277	9 10
1888-89	4546	16	14,647	13	"	1245	9	5	15,896	6 5
1889-90	3410	"	9,468	12	"	929	9	10	10,398	5 10
1890-91	5683	8	13,465	"	"	1093	12	"	14,558	12 "

16. The revenue derived by Government from the sale proceeds and license fees was as follows:-

Years	Total Revenue	
1887-88	Rs. 20,481	12 3
1888-89	22,724	12 "
1889-90	30,294	3 3
1890-91	29,927	12 1

17. Special Licenses referred to in Opium Rule II may be granted by Government for the Cultivation of poppy, subject to the following proposed Conditions :-

- (1) No Export of opium is allowed under the existing Opium Rules.
- (2) No Ryot or other person shall cultivate poppy in open fields.
- (3) Ryots or other persons intending to raise poppy in small gardens or back-yards shall apply for Special Licenses to Government through the Deputy Commissioners of the respective Districts.
- (4) If the Deputy Commissioner considers there is no objection to grant the licenses, he shall submit the application to Government with his recommendation through the Excise Commissioner.
- (5) The license to be granted by Government for poppy cultivation may be in the form

6/

	Rs.	A.P.
+ For land measuring 500 square yards	20	0
— Do — less than 500 — and	10	0
Exceeding 2 guntas.	—	—
— Do — two guntas and more than one ganta	5	0
— Do — one ganta and less than one ganta	2	8

prescribed in Government
= went Notification
No. 483 dated 4th May
1887 for licenses to
cultivate ganja
hemp.

(6). The License fees
shall be regulated
as per particulars
in the margin.

(7). No license shall
be granted for more
than 500 square
yards of land.

(8). The license
holder shall sell
the opium produce
of his land only to
the licensed retail
vendors of opium.

18. It is necessary
that the cultivator
of poppy should be allowed to draw
opium juice from the capsules
or poppy heads, as otherwise the
poppy seeds would become very
bilious and unfit for human

Consumption.

19. The loss of Revenue to the Mysore State which might be occasioned by interference with the consumption of the drug would be about Rs. 14,000.

20. To introduce preventive measures a heavy detective staff will be needed, as the existing Excise establishment is not sufficient for the purpose.

21. The accompanying statement shows the number of opium eaters and opium smokers throughout the Mysore Province who would doubtless feel uncomfortable at least for a time, in the event of the use of the drug being prohibited.

R. Jagannathan
Excise Commissioner
in Mysore
Encl.

Statement shewing the number of Opium Eaters, and Opium smokers, in the Mysore State.

Name of District	Name of Talook	Number of Opium Eaters	Number of Opium Smokers	Total	Remarks
	Bangalore Cantonment	1064	573	1637	
	" " City	295	266	561	
	" " Talook	"	"	"	
	Hoskote Taluq	30	"	30	
(1) Bangalore District	Doddaballapur " "	20	"	20	
	Hankanhalli " "	21	1	22	
	Gorepett " "	168	88	256	
	Ankal " "	100	100	200	
	Devanahalli " "	7	"	7	
	Chennapatna " "	40	"	40	
	Total	386	189	575	
2 District	Holar	54	"	54	
	Bowringpett	126	252	378	
	Chintamani	50	50	100	
	Mulubagal	100	100	200	

(2)	Polar District Siddlaghatta Chickaballapoor Gonibidnur Malur Sreenivasapur Total -	2 60 39 55 16 502	2 18 161 " 6 587	2 78 200 55 22 1089
(3)	Tumkoot District Tumkoot Sira Gubbi Tiptoor Kunigal Total -	18 " 12 9 5 44	22 1500 " " 3 1525	40 1500 12 9 8 1569
(4)	Mysore District Mysore Chamarajnagar Sreevingapatam Hirahalli Gundulpet T. Nassipur Malavalli Nagamangala Total	250 100 21 110 3 18 56 7 565	150 " " " " " " 2 152	400 100 21 715 3 18 56 9 717